# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# AGRICULTURE
# LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2597
ANSWERED ON:21.03.2005
IMPROVEMENT IN VARIETY OF FRUITS
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**Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:**

(a) whether the Government proposes to formulate any scheme for improvement in the variety of fruits, their marketing and processing in the country particularly in hilly areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the funds to be allocated for the purpose; and

(d) the States where this scheme has been introduced in the first phase?

## Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA)

(a) to (d): Recognizing the potential for development of horticulture including improvement in variety of fruit crops, Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India has already implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme `Technology Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture in North Eastern States including Sikkim` since 2001-2002. The scheme has further extended to three other contiguous hilly States namely Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and Uttaranchal in 2003-04. The scheme is being implemented in a Mission Mode approach to address all the issues related to development of horticulture including improvement of variety of fruit crops and their marketing and processing through its four Mini Missions. Mini Mission-I, which relates to research is involved in development, refinement and demonstration of technologies, besides production and supply of nucleus seed and planting materials. Mini Mission-II, which relates to production and productivity is involved in improving the production & productivity of horticultural crops through expansion of area, production of planting material, creation of irrigation facilities, infrastructure development for protected cultivation, adopton of organic farming and others. Mini Mission-III, which relates to marketing involves creation of adequate infrastructure facilities such as whole sale markets, rural primary markets, apni mandis and State grading laboratories, besides creation of infrastructure facilities for post harvest management such as cold storage units, refer vans, packaging and handling units. Mini Mission-IV, which relates to processing is involved in promotion of processing of horticulture produce through establishment/upgradation of viable processing units.

The Mission is being implemented in eleven hilly States namely Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim, Tripura, Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and Uttaranchal.

The details of funds released under the mission since 2001-02 are given in Annexure-I.